private sector, both domestic and foreign. Any company registered in India can apply to the State Governments for grant of prospecting licence/mining lease.

Women PDS shops in India

2162. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women PDS shops in India;

(b) the number of women PDS shops in Tamil Nadu; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to improve or to provide facilities to women PDS shops in Madras and Kany-akumari districts?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Allotment of Fair Price Shops are done by State Governments/UT Administrations. The figures of women PDS shops are not maintained by Central Government.

Growth rate in the value of production in small scale and cottage sector

2163. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) the annual rate of growth in the value of production in small scale and cottage sector during 1994-95 and the first three months of current financial year;

(b) the annual rate of growth in the capital investment in this sector during this period in the State of Gujarat; and

(c) the annual rate of growth in employment in this sector during this period in Gujarat State?

'Figures are for first three months of 1996-97.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The estimated annual rate of growth in the value of production in the small scale sector, at All India Level, for the year 1994-95 was 10.1% and for the first 9 months of 1995-96 it was 10.3%. The growth rate for the first three months of current financial year i.e. 1996-97 is not available.

Similarly annual rate of growth of production in the Cottage Industries (KVI) Sector for the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 was 12.1% and 23.3% (estimated) respectively.

(b) and (c) The additional capital investment and employment in the small scale sector and cottage industries in the State of Gujarat are given below:

Year	Small Scale Industries	Cottage Industries
(A)	*Capital Investment*	*(Rs. lakhs)*
1994-95	36288.25	2763.19
1995-96	38855.46	4093.89
1996-97*	8719.57	1281.78
(B)		*Employment (Nos).*
1994-95	62949	110810
1995-96	54156	111798
1996-97'	9936	8650

गेहूं का निर्यात

2164. **श्री राघवजी:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 1995 में और 30 जून, 1996 तक किन-किन देशों को कितना-कितना गेहूं निर्यात किया गया; और

(ख) सरकार द्वारा अपने भंडार में से कितना गेहूं और किस दर से बेचा गया?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बोल्ला बुल्ली रामैया): (क) वर्ष 1995-96 और 1996-97